

# DODD CALLS PANEL UNFAIR AS HEARING ERUPTS IN DISPUTE

Senator Assails Counsel for Eliciting Testimony, Then Making Offer to Strike It

GERMAN TRIP THE ISSUE

Ex-Secretary of Democrat Tells of 'Speculation' on Payment for Journey

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WASHINGTON, June 23 —

Hearings into charges of alleged misconduct by Senator Thomas J. Dodd erupted today into an angry dispute and a protest by Mr. Dodd that the Senate ethics committee was treating him unfairly.

These developments were touched off by testimony by Miss Marjorie Carpenter, former personal secretary to Mr. Dodd.

Miss Carpenter told of hearing "speculation" that the Senator might have received \$10,000 from Julius Klein, Chicago public relations man, for making a trip to West Germany.

Before the day was over, two other former Dodd aides had denied Miss Carpenter's testimony and the Senator had dispatched a request to Attorney General Nicholas deB. Katzenbach that she be indicted for perjury.

The Connecticut Democrat called her testimony "entirely false."

Lie Test Invited

Miss Carpenter, who was discharged by Senator Dodd in 1964 after working for him for two years, offered to take a lie detector test regarding her testimony.

The 28-year-old green-eyed blonde is one of four former staff members in Senator Dodd's office who have acknowledged taking some 4,000 documents from his files.

The ethics committee, formally known as the Select Committee on Standards and Conduct, is investigating charges by Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson, the Washington columnists, that Senator Dodd was an "errand boy" for Mr. Klein. Copies of the Dodd documents were given to the columnists and the originals were returned to the Senator's files.

Mr. Klein is a retired Army Reserve major general with wide contacts in Washington. His public relations concern holds a \$150,000-a-year contract to represent West German industrial and banking interests in this country. He is registered as a foreign agent.

Testify About Trip

Miss Carpenter was testifying about Senator Dodd's six-day trip to Germany in April, 1964, a visit that the Senator contends was made on official business for the Senate Internal Security Committee.

James P. Boyd Jr., one of the former aides to Mr. Dodd who has acknowledged taking documents from his files, told the ethics committee yesterday that Mr. Klein pleaded with Mr. Dodd to make the trip to help him salvage the public relations contracts of a number of German clients.

The clients had been upset by publicity about Mr. Klein's appearance as a witness before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 1963, Mr. Boyd said. The committee had investigated the activities of lobbyists for foreign interests.

Today Miss Carpenter, speaking in a soft Arkansas drawl, testified to a conversation after the trip between David Martin, who had accompanied the Senator to Europe, and Gerard J. Zeiller. Both men were then on Senator Dodd's staff.

Miss Carpenter, referring to Mr. Martin, told the committee: "He said that Senator Dodd had mentioned General Klein's name to all the German officials they had visited while they were in Germany, and then he said, 'I wonder how much General Klein paid Senator Dodd to do that.'"

"And then Mr. Zeiller said, 'Oh, I have known General Klein for a long time. I knew him when I worked for Senator [Strom] Bridges,' and he sort of laughed."

"And Mr. Martin said, 'He must have paid \$10,000,' and Mr. Zeiller said, 'Oh, easily.'"

Under questioning by the committee, chairman, Senator

John Stennis, Democrat of Mississippi, Miss Carpenter conceded that neither Mr. Martin nor Mr. Zeiller had said any payment was actually made. But she characterized Mr. Martin's tone in the conversation as "serious and disturbed."

May Be Stricken

It was not clear as the committee recessed tonight whether this testimony would remain in the record. Senator Stennis several times described it as "of no probative value" and "probably inadmissible."

At one point Benjamin R. Fern, the committee counsel, offered to withdraw his question to Miss Carpenter and to strike the entire exchange. The full testimony appeared in the transcript made available to newsmen, however.

Senators John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky and James B. Pearson of Kansas, both Republicans, made it clear that they strongly opposed striking the testimony from the record.

After Miss Carpenter's testimony about the conversation, John F. Sonnett, personal counsel to Senator Dodd, asked for immediate rebuttal testimony from Mr. Martin and Mr. Zeiller. But Senator Stennis refused.

Mr. Dodd suddenly sprang from his chair and approached the committee dais. He waved his arms, and his face was red. He spoke in a hoarse voice.

"I think that the important difference is that counsel for the committee knew about this [conflict of] testimony, adduced it from the witness and then moved to strike it," he said. "I don't know why I wasn't informed about it. I thought this was a fact-finding hearing and not a trial."

"That is exactly what we are trying to do, Senator Dodd," the chairman replied, rapping on his water glass for order.

"It doesn't appear to me that when counsel, knowing what the testimony was ahead of time, adduces this testimony and then moves to strike it, we are in an ordinary situation," Senator Dodd continued.

While Mr. Dodd, his four lawyers, and a crush of newsmen and spectators crowded through the hearing room door, Senator Stennis rapped with a pencil on the water glass and finally declared a luncheon recess.

Dodd Persists

But Mr. Dodd persisted. While Mr. Stennis stood and repeated, "Just a minute now," Senator Dodd turned to the spectators in the large hearing room of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"I am going to ask the Attorney General to proceed with perjury charges against this witness," He said, pointing to Miss Carpenter. There was a scattering of applause from the

audience.

"The press is here, and the public," Senator Dodd continued. "I have been done irreparable damage. After he [Mr. Fern] adduces this testimony he chooses to withdraw it."

In the corridor Senator Dodd stood before television newsreel cameras, which are barred from the hearing room, and in a three-way interview with Mr. Martin and Mr. Zeiller, denounced Miss Carpenter's testimony as "a falsehood."

"My outrage at the committee counsel is justified," Senator Dodd said.

Account Denied

Mr. Martin and Mr. Zeiller both appeared as witnesses during the afternoon session and denied Miss Carpenter's version of the conversation. Mr. Martin did not recall that there had been any conversation.

Halfway through Mr. Zeiller's statement supporting Mr. Dodd's rebuttal, a heavy hammering sound from workmen elsewhere in the new Senate Office Building echoed through the hearing room.

"I hope this is not prearranged," Senator Dodd interrupted, striding up to the chairman. His comment brought a sharp rejoinder from Senator Wallace F. Bennett, Republican of Utah, the vice chairman of the committee.

"I object to that statement that it is prearranged," Mr. Bennett said.

"I didn't say it was prearranged," Senator Dodd replied. "I just can't hear this important witness with this hammering."

Stennis Praises Fern

As the committee neared the end of its session today, Senator Stennis made an apparent response to Senator Dodd's criticism of Mr. Fern, praising the chief counsel's "thoroughness, sincerity and fairness."

"To a degree here this morning," Mr. Stennis said, "Mr. Fern was challenged and his motives at least partly impugned. If he is impugned, why we are all impugned because he is the voice of the committee as chief counsel."

"I take it you are referring to me," Senator Dodd began again, approaching the chairman.

"Well, you had indicated here to me that you are sorry you got out of line or some words to that effect," Senator Stennis replied.

"No, what I said was that—"

Mr. Dodd began. "If you will excuse us now, Senator," the chairman broke in. "I heard you this morning. All right, that's all. We'll take a recess."

Ex-Aide to Klein Appears

Another witness today was Miss Helen Batherson, formerly

executive secretary of the Washington office of Julius Klein Public Relations, Inc. Amid laughter, she described herself as "a girl Friday for 12 years, and that covers a lot of territory."

Miss Batherson said Mr. Klein had called Senator Dodd "repeatedly to ask him to intercede in his behalf with clients in Germany."

"Did General Klein encourage Senator Dodd's trip to Germany?" Mr. Fern asked her. She replied:

"I can't honestly say he encouraged it. But General Klein is a very persuasive type person who calls day and night to pressure a person to do something for him. And perhaps the Senator finally felt he just had to do it."

Miss Carpenter, divorced in 1963, acknowledged under questioning by Mr. Sonnett that Mr. Boyd, Senator Dodd's former administrative assistant who testified yesterday, was "very important" to her. The chairman overruled Mr. Sonnett, however, when the lawyer asked, "Do you plant to marry him?"

Miss Carpenter has said she prefers to be called "Miss," but committee members refer to her as "Mrs. Carpenter."

Mr. Boyd had testified that he was divorced this year. He has four children.

Michael V. O'Hare, another former staff aide, and Miss Terry Golden, a former secretary in Mr. Dodd's office, were questioned briefly late this afternoon.

"Was Terry Golden your girl friend?", Mr. Sonnett asked Mr. O'Hare.

"Yes, sir, and still is," he replied.

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